

we owe Senator Beutler the courtesy of seeing what kinds of others, other kinds of solutions that he may suggest to us and offer to us. I particularly appreciate Senator Wesely's remarks because I do believe that the public does not fully understand the problem that we are grappling with. They want limitations on spending but they don't understand the constraints that we are under because of the court decisions. And, you know, the constraints make public funding necessary, absolutely necessary if we are going to do anything about campaign expenditure limitations as Senator Wesely has just stated. Once the public understands that, then I think they are more ready to consider the options, and that's probably why they are willing to listen to Senator Beutler's explanations and are agreeable once they hear all the rationale. Let me tell you why I don't think we've considered all the options here. We have the option of, of course, funding the bill as Senator Beutler has suggested, or in some other way, funding it as the bill was originally written. We also have the option that Senator Bernard-Stevens and Senator Witek have just offered us, and that is to just do away with the bill entirely. I would suggest to you that we have another option, and the options, the options have been offered to you. They are in the Journal, and if we get to the bill on Final...on General File again, we will have the opportunity to discuss them. But that is to cut down on the size of the funding needs in the bill by simply cutting down the time frame that we cover. I've got two different amendments that cut it down to general election only. Maybe we have enough funds already, if we cut it down to general election already. I don't know, that is something that we'd have to consider. I just don't think that we have given Senator Beutler's bill and his suggestions full enough discussion and full enough consideration, and I think that we need to consider all the options. I, too, would like to go back and take another look at that general funding that we looked at once before. There weren't enough people here that day to really get a good vote on it. I think we owe Senator Beutler the courtesy of discussing it when there are enough people on the floor to make a decision that is a decision of the entire Legislature. So with that, I would encourage you to vote against the motion to reconsider.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Warner, followed by Senators Chambers, Witek, and Pirsch.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, my remarks are going to be brief. It is evident to me as I've